

## **Senator Joe Lieberman, Retired**

On January 19, 2011, in his hometown of Stamford, Connecticut, Senator Lieberman announced his plan to retire from the United States Senate at the end of his fourth term. In his remarks he said, "I go forward with a tremendous sense of gratitude for the opportunities I have had to make a difference." Senator Lieberman served 24 years in the U.S. Senate, and 40 years in elective office.

A thoughtful legislator. A principled man. An effective leader. This is the reputation that Joe Lieberman has earned himself after four terms as the representative of Connecticut in the United States Senate.

That reputation is based on a long and distinguished record. Senator Lieberman was one of Congress's most influential voices on security issues. He was the Senate's leading champion of legislation creating the Department of Homeland Security to better protect the nation from terrorist attacks. Here at home, Senator Lieberman has believed in equal opportunity for all Americans, supporting economic policies that spark business growth and encouraged innovation. He also led the successful legislative efforts to repeal the military's discriminatory "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, which prohibits patriotic gay and lesbian Americans from serving openly in our armed services.

Senator Lieberman proved himself a true environmental champion, helping to negotiate the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990. Additionally, Senator Lieberman has been a strong advocate for investing in our public schools, empowering parents, and challenging all students to meet higher academic standards. He sought to give all Americans, regardless of income, the chance to go to college and develop the skills they needed to succeed in our global information economy. He works to expand quality and affordable healthcare to all Americans and to safeguard Medicare and Social Security for future generations. Senator Lieberman has been a vocal advocate for campaign finance reform and has written extensively on the dignity and nobility of public service. He urged America to be true to its tradition of tolerance by giving faith and its practitioners a place at the national table.

Perhaps best known as the Democratic candidate for Vice President in 2000, Senator Lieberman has established himself as a national leader—one who works across party lines to find common ground, a person who speaks his conscience and who gets things done for the good of all people in America.